Wage settlement of Port and Dock Workers

3783. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Mnister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the last Wage settlement of Port and Dock Workers has expired. and

(b) if so, what steps have been undertaken to start negotiations with Port and Dock Federations for the next wage settlement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the absence of guidelines from Department of Public Enterprises, negotiations with Port and Dock Federations for next wage settlement have not been initiated so far.

Additional facilities for Ports

3784. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that port facilities required to handle additional highly inflammable commodity like LPG and Kerosene to be imported by private trade as per new policy of Government are inadequate; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to develop such facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No Sir, LPG and Kerosene are handled at the same berths as POL Traffic. The existing capacity for handling POL traffic including LPG and Kerosene at major ports is 78 million tonnes per annum. As against this, the POL traffic (including LPG and Kerosene) handled during the last 3 years was as under :

Year	(In million tonnes)
1989-90	63.6
1990-91	65.9
1991-92	69.6

(b) Does not arise.

Inland Water Transport Scheme

3785. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a new inland water transport scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the rivers likely to be covered under this scheme; and

(d) by when, the new scheme would start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) With a view to promoting IWT operations on the National Waterways, the Inland Waterways Authority of India submitted the following proposals for Government approval :—

(i) Providing two vessels of 600 T capacity free of cost (bare boat basis) to reputed IWT Entrepreneurs for operating experimental-cum-promotion IWT operations in the National Waterway (Ganga).

(ii) A scheme for providing compensation of Re. 0.10 per tonne km moved on river for non-availability of night navigation, perfect channel and mechanised handling facilities in respect of the cargo moved on the National Waterways viz. Ganga and Brahmaputra.

(The scheme relating to providing vessels to prospective entrepreneurs free of cost has been sanctioned by the Govt. recently for implementation during 1993-94 at an estimated cost of Rs. 84.00 lakhs.

Bridge across Brahmaputra at Bogibil in Assam

3786. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present position of the proposed bridge across Brahmaputra at Bogibil in Upper Assam; and

(b) what are the reasons for non-inclusion of the Bridge in the current Budget ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The proposed rail-cum-road bridge across Brahmaputra at Bogibil when completed will fall on a State Road and is thus the responsibility of the Government of Assam. However, it has been decided to view this project from overall national perspective as regards assistance for funding is concerned, but the work can be taken up only after completion of the rail-cum-road bridge across Brahmaputra at Jogighopa.

Pending work of Ganga Bridge

3787. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA :

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the progress of the work done till date regarding construction work of bypass road between Mohansarai and Mughalsarai and also to complete the pending work of Ganga bridge there;

(b) whether the World Bank is assisting to get the work done within the stipulated time; and

(c) if so, the details of the assistance given by World Bank and by when both the work would be fully completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Upto February, 1993 progress of construction of Ganga bridge is 41% and of bypass road portion 27%.

(b) and (c) This was one of the projects included in the First Loan Assistance of the World Bank. The loan for this project has closed on 31-12-1992 as the World Bank have not agreed for its extension. Reimbursement of about Rs. 1634.5 lakhs has been claimed from the World Bank till 22-2-1993. The works are scheduled to be completed by June, 1995.

Andaman Port Management Board

3788. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andaman Port Management Board has been offering the maintenance and the repair work of the boats maintained by the Board to certain selected private contractors despite the fact that all the facilities to undertake the work exist with the Board;

(b) if so, what is the annual amount spent by the APMB on the maintenance and repairs of the boats;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for awarding the work to private contractors when the APMB is equipped with the facilities required;

(d) whether Government have made any inquiry into the malpractices in the APMB if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what action has been taken by Government in the matter

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) During 1992, an expenditure of Rs. 13,52,488 was incurred on maintenance and repairs of boats done through